## U.S. military members invited to free lecture/tours of the hull of the DeBraak, a shipwrecked 18th-century British warship

■ On July 27, 2013 at 9 a.m., Noon and 3 p.m., U.S. military members are invited to attend free lecture/tours of the hull of His Majesty's Sloop DeBraak, a British warship that was escorting and protecting a convoy of British and American merchant ships en route to the United States when it was capsized and lost off the Delaware coast on May 25, 1798. Normally \$10 per person, free tickets for the July 27 tours are available for current and former members of the U.S. military and their families (restricted to persons aged 10 and above). Tickets are available only through the Shop Delaware website (http://shop.delaware.gov/index.php?cPath=155). For additional information, call 302-645-1148.

All programs begin at the <u>Zwaanendael Museum</u>, located at 102 Kings Highway in Lewes, Del., where a lecture on the ship will be presented in conjunction with <u>"A Seaborne Citizenry: The DeBraak and Its Atlantic World,"</u> an exhibit that has been on display at the museum since Dec. 1, 2012. The exhibit tells the story of the vessel, its crew and the historical context within which it operated in the late 18th century. Ticket holders will then be transported, via van, to the DeBraak hull facility in nearby CapeHenlopenState Park for a curator-led tour of the surviving section of the ship's hull.

This special offering is part of the <u>Blue Star Museums</u> program, a vehicle for outreach to members of the United States armed forces. A collaboration between the National

Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense and more than 1,800 museums across America, the program offers free admission to all active duty military personnel and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2013.

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